

## **HILTON HEAD ISLAND • WE'RE GOING TO CAROLINA**

Joseph W. Dent

TIPS Fall Meeting October 1-5, 2008

Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, the second largest barrier island on the East Coast, will host the 2008 TIPS Fall Meeting. At Hilton Head, you will find the hospitality of the South Carolina low country and the relaxation of a beach resort.

The meeting headquarters will be the Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa in Port Royal Plantation. Port Royal is centrally located and is perfect for venturing out to enjoy everything Hilton Head has to offer.

We will start the meeting off on Thursday night with a welcome reception. With the comfortable autumn weather boasted by the South Carolina coast, the large outdoor deck of the Westin overlooking the pool and the ocean will be the perfect setting for meeting and greeting old and new friends.

During the meetings, the family can enjoy a relaxing time at the large pool or on the beach wading on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. When there is free time, there is something for everybody. The spa has professionally trained massage therapists. There are two jogging trails designed by Runners World magazine which will provide an excellent venue for our Saturday morning fun run. Family time can be spent bike riding, horseback riding, kayaking, or sailing.

On Friday afternoon, the golf outing will be held at the Port Royal Golf Club, a challenge to both the scratch golfer and the hacker. For non-golfers, there are 16 tennis courts featuring all three grand slam surfaces. For those with kids, you can explore the Coastal Discovery Museum and the Sand Box: a Hilton Head area children's museum. Of course, there is always shopping particularly with the outlet malls on Highway 278 as you approach the island. There's a bargain to be found by the most frugal of shoppers.

On Friday night, dinner is on your own, but there should be no problem finding some of the best low country seafood in the world at the more than 250 Hilton Head restaurants. Hudson's is nearby overlooking the Port Royal Sound. Alexander's Seafood Restaurant and Charlie's L'Etoile Verte are also excellent places to dine. For those planning ahead, you can find out more about the Hilton Head dining experience at [www.hhidining.com](http://www.hhidining.com).

Finally, we will end our weekend with the Saturday evening dinner dance. We will once again return to the large outside deck which provides wonderful views of the Atlantic Ocean. After dinner, we will be entertained by Total Package a soulful horn band which plays old school, Motown, and beach music. Total Package is sure to provide music for dancers of all ages including those who wish to shag and those who wish to boogie down.

Hilton Head will be an ideal venue for the 2008 fall meeting. Until then, I will, in the words of James Taylor, Abe going to Carolina in my mind. @ I look forward to seeing you there.